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August 16, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE - 9 PAGES (Including This Cover)

Commissioner for Patents
POB 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
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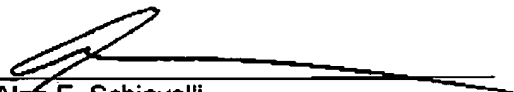
Applicants: MINKKINEN et al
Serial No.: 10/729,965
Filed: December 9, 2003
For: Natural Gas Deacidizing And Dehydration Method
Art Unit: 1754
Examiner: Johnson, E.
Docket: 612.43291X00
Conf. No. 2197

Sir:

Applicant hereby transmits the attached "REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION (8 pages)" regarding the above-identified application.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that the attached "REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION (8 pages)" is being **FORMALLY TRANSMITTED** via the USPTO Central Fax No. 571-273-8300 on August 16, 2006.


Alan E. Schiavelli

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 16, 2006

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2006, in connection with the above-identified application.

Claims 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. In support of this rejection, it has been urged by the examiner that these claims contain subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner alleges there to be no support for the requirement that the first and second solvents be different or have different concentrations. This rejection is traversed.

In analyzing whether the specification satisfies the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, the fundamental factual inquiry is whether the specification conveys with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art that, as of the filing date sought, applicant was in possession of the invention as now